

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5360

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTRYE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGSA: PFOR, SF, IV

SUBJECT: VISIT OF IVORY COAST MINISTER OF INFORMATION TO SOUTH
AFRICA

REF: PRETORIA 3639

1. SUMMARY: I SPOKE AT LENGTH WITH DONA FOLOGO, WHO RETURNED
FROM SOUTH AFRICA ENCOURAGED THAT GOIC DIALOGUE POLICY WAS
ONLY WAY TO PROCEED, AND OBVIOUSLY PLEASED WITH WARMTH
OF HIS RECEPTION. HE BELIEVES VISIT, AND FUTURE CONTACTS,
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MAY HASTEN DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS IN SOUTH AFRICA,

BUT CONCERNED THAT DEVELOPMENT MAY NOT BE FAST ENOUGH TO AVOID EXPLOSIONS. THE REPORTED "SICK SOCIETY" REMARK WAS ALLEGEDLY A MISQUOTE, POSSIBLY DELIBERATE, BY CONSERVATIVE PRESS. END SUMMARY

2. DONA FOLOGO SAID HE WAS STRUCK BY CORDIALITY OF HIS RECEPTION. HE, HIS PRETTY FRENCH WIFE, AND METIS MEMBER OF ENTOURAGE HAD ENCOUNTERED LITTLE DISCRIMINATION OR ANTIPATHY (HE HINTED RACIAL MIX OF DELEGATION NOT COINCIDENTIAL). ONLY ADVERSE REACTION HAD BEEN IN BLANCK COMMUNITIES, WHICH AT FIRST SUSPICIOUS OF "SELL-OUT" TO SOUTH AFRICA. FOLOGO FELT HIS FORTHRIGHT PUBLIC CONDEMNATION OF APARTHEID HAD CORRECTED THIS IMPRESSION.

3. FOLOGO WAS AT PAINS TO CORRECT "SICK SOCIETY" REMARK. HE HAD SAID HATRED IS SICKNESS WHICH AFFECTS SOUTH AFRICAN RELATIONS WITH BLACK AFRICA. THOSE WHO INITIATED APARTHEID WERE INFECTED WITH IT, AS WERE THOSE IN BLACK AFRICA WHO ADVOCATED ARMED FORCE. GOIC POLICY WAS AIMED AT HEALING THE DISEASE. FOLOGO THOUGHT RIGHT WING PRESS HAD MISINTERPRETED THESE REMARKS.

4. FOLOGO BELIEVES TRANSKEI HAS CAPABILITY TO BECOME VIABLE STATE, ALTHOUGH QUESTION OF WHITE ENCLAVES OBVIOUSLY DIFFICULT, AND SO INFORMED MATANZIMA. FOLOGO WAS FAR LESS CERTAIN ABOUT VIABILITY OF OTHER "HOMELANDS." HE HAD NOT MET BUTHELEZI, WHO FOLOGO THOUGHT HAD AVOIDED HIM IN BELIEF FOLOGO SUPPORTED INDEPENDENCE OF KWAZULO RATHER THAN END TO APARTHEID. THIS IMPRESSION CORRECTED TOO LATE TO ARRANGE A MEETING.

5. ALTHOUGH HOSTS WERE CORDIAL, FOLOGO THOUGHT THERE HAD BEEN SOME SCHEDULE JUGGLING TO AVOID DIFFICULT MEETING. FOLOGO CANCELLED RADIO BROADCAST TO MEET RESIDENTS OF SOWETO (JOHANNESBURG BLACK QUARTER). HE WAS PARTICULARLY STRUCK BY BITTERNESS SOUTH AFRICAN METIS COMMUNITY IN CAPETOWN.

6. THOUGH CONTACTS MAY CONTINUE, FOLOGO SAW LITTLE LIKELIHOOD ESTABLISHMENT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN ABSENCE SOME OAU CONSENSUS TO DO SO. THREE OR FOUR MISSIONS, HE THOUGHT, WOULD ONLY ENCOURAGE SOUTH AFRICANS FEEL POLICIES WERE ACCEPTED. THIRTY MISSIONS, WITH THEN OR MORE BLACK AFRICANS IN EACH, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MIGHT HAVE SOLID IMPACT ON CONSCIENCE OF SOUTH AFRICANS, BUT SUCH A STEP CLEARLY FAR OFF. THERE LITTLE POINT IN ESTABLISHING RELATIONS UNLESS POSITIVE REFORM WOULD RESULT. FOLOGO NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT MALAWI AMBASSADOR AND FAMILY FELT ENTIRELY AT EASE IN DIPLOMATIC ENCLAVE IN SOUTH AFRICA MILIEU.
SMITH

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